



Infantry News



An Alpha Company Publication MAR 2000



Preparation for Deployment

.... your continuing checklist!

PT anyone? How many troops have put thought into the physical preparation of themselves for the deployment to Southwest Asia? The temperature will put a strain on both the physical and mental conditioning of a soldier. Take time to prepare yourself and ensure that your soldiers do the same. The heat is easier to endure if the body is conditioned. Team leaders should begin reviewing FM 21-20 to familiarize themselves with developing PT plans during hot weather. Also soldiers should be ready to LEAD PT. Five months is plenty of time to rotate the leadership through the PT schedules!



Need a Social Security Card?

Many soldiers now have new family members. A few of you are missing your social security card. This is an item that you **NEED**. There are several ways to get one. You can now go on line and get the forms at <http://www.ssa.gov> or call 800-772-1213 to get the address of the nearest administration office. Check the unit web site for more links and info.

- Notify your employer now about the possible deployment. Tell your employer that you will probably be performing military duty from 13 MAY 2000 through mid OCTOBER 2000.
- If you are self-employed or involved in a small business as a partner, you need to plan effectively for how you want the business to function in your absence.
- Notify your college professors / instructors now about the possible deployment. See when is the last day of class for the spring semester. Military duty takes precedence over college classes. You may be absent from the last few school days of the spring semester.

ACTUAL MOBILIZATION

Ordinarily Company members would be notified by telephone through their chain of command. **It is essential that you keep the unit informed of your current home and job address and telephone number !** For this mobilization you can expect that you will receive a mobilization order during one of the March 2000 drill weekends.

Save your receipts!

Save your receipts for all of the paperwork that you have to get for the deployment. After the deployment you will be required to fill out a travel voucher. This will allow you to be reimbursed for travel, document request fees like processing fees for birth certificates, marriage certificates, etc. .

Notification Of Possible Mobilization for Deployment

Company A 1/178 (Air Assault) Infantry has been notified of a possible deployment to Southwest Asia. As part of this notification, here are a few key things to make sure that you take care of.

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RECEIPT OF (ANTICIPATED) MOBILIZATION ORDER

A mobilization order may have an immediate report date in which you would start active duty right away. The mobilization order that we are anticipating receipt of will have a 28 MAY 2000 start date. In addition to the mobilization order you will also receive an annual training order. Annual training may be at Fort McCoy, WI or another train up station from 13-27 MAY 2000. You will receive an annual training letter during the March Drill Weekend. Give a copy of the Annual Training Letter to your boss and your college professor/instructor right away. Do the same when you get the actual mobilization order. Coordinate with your employer to establish a specific time to leave your job. Be sure that your employer understands that you will be returning to work as their employee when you are released from military duty. Also coordinate with your college professor/instructor, if necessary arrange to take final exams early.

When receipt of mobilization orders is anticipated do not register for college courses when school dates would conflict with military duty dates.

FAMILY READINESS GROUP

You and your family members should participate in Family Readiness Group activities now. Getting family members to know one another now will make them better prepared to offer mutual support during mobilization or other contingencies. Your Family Readiness Group leader is **Laurie Chudoba**, her telephone number is (815) 623-1605. The unit recruiters will function as points of contact for the unit during the deployment.

Machesney Park recruiters - (815) 633-4914

Woodstock recruiters - (815) 337-9728

PRE-MOBILIZATION (DRILL / 11-12 MARCH 2000)

- Review required documents
- Medical Examinations
- Dental Examinations
- Optometrist (Spectacles / Inserts)
- Initial Immunizations
- Identify Panographic, Physical, HIV, DNA Requirements
- Identify Medical Warning Tag Requirements
- Identify Family Care Plan Requirements
- Identify Civilian Employer, Supervisor Name, Address
 - Check / Upgrade Security Clearances



Updated Drill Dates

DATE

11-12 MAR
25-26 MAR
8-9 APR
29-30 APR
6-7 MAY
13 MAY
13-24 MAY
25 MAY - 3 OCT
10-11 JUN
7 JUL
8-23 JUL
12-13 AUG
16-17 SEP

TRAINING EVENT

Soldier Readiness Planning (SRP)
Soldier Readiness Planning (SRP)
Soldier Readiness Planning (SRP)
Ranges / Company FTX
Final Preparation Before Deployment
Report for Deployment
Annual Training
Federal Activation
RESCHEDULED DUE TO DEPLOYMENT
RESCHEDULED DUE TO DEPLOYMENT
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MAXIMIZE YOUR EARNINGS

Get BASIC ALLOWANCES for QUARTERS (BAQ) money by submitting a copy of your apartment lease agreement or house payment. Also submit a copy of your property taxes, and home or renters insurance.

PRE-MOBILIZATION (DRILL / 25-26 MARCH 2000)

- **Soldier Dependent Briefing** - Will discuss the benefits that your dependents are entitled to while you are on active duty. Will explain how they can use their benefits. Will provide them a point of contact where they can obtain additional information while you are away.

Mission / Pre-mobilization Schedule

Pay

Entitlements

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) /

USERRA

Wills / Power of Attorney (Briefing Only)

Family Readiness Program

TRICARE (Dependent Medical) Enrollment

Education Issues

Incentives Issues

- **Medical** - Physical Examinations, More immunizations, Anthrax #1, Panographs, Blood Typing, Ear Plug Fitting/Issue

- **Finance** All Required Forms, Soldiers Group Life Insurance (SGLV 8286), Emergency Notification Data Card (DD Form 93), Marriage / Dependent Documents

- **Personnel Service Branch / SIDPERS**

FAMILY CARE PLANS

If you are a single parent or married to another service

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Preparation for Deployment Continued

member you are expected to have a plan for the custody and care of your family members. You will be counseled by your commander or his designated representative and the required forms and legal documents will be filed at the unit.

PERSONAL RECORDS CHECKLIST

STORAGE OF PROPERTY / POV

PRE-MOBILIZATION (DRILL / 08-09 APRIL 2000)

- ANTHRAX #2
- Supply Issues

PRE-MOBILIZATION (DRILL / 29-30 APRIL 2000)

- ANTHRAX #3
- Identification Cards / Dependent Identification Cards

PRE-MOBILIZATION (DRILL / 06-07 MAY 2000)

- STATE JUDGE ADVOCATE - Wills, Powers of Attorneys
 - Identification Cards / Dependent Identification Cards
 - Identification TAGS / Medical Warning TAGS
- 07 MAY 2000 - 1200 Hours Company Picnic / Going Away Party

PRE-MOBILIZATION (ANNUAL TRAINING (ADVANCE PARTY) / 10 MAY 2000)

PRE-MOBILIZATION (ANNUAL TRAINING / 13-27 MAY 2000)

- Security Battle Drills

MOBILIZATION (28 MAY - Early October 2000)

You will be on active duty, and subject to all active army regulations and policies. The unit will provide billeting, mess, and medical services for you. Training will be long and hard. There will be little free time, and except for emergencies, no leave or passes will be authorized.

TAKING PERSONAL PROPERTY WITH WHEN MOBILIZED

A few **SMALL** personal items like portable radios and cameras will be allowed, within reason. Normally, guidance from the theater will even dictate the military and civilian clothing authorized in the theater. More information on what

is authorized will follow after the unit recon is conducted. **Finally, it must be stressed that you cannot take personal weapons with you.**

DEMOBILIZATION (Annual Training 2001)

- **LEAVE** - You will be paid for leave that you accrued while serving on active duty.
- **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS / EVALUATION** - Actions could range from a simple screening to a complete examination.
- **EVALUATIONS and AWARDS** - NCOER / OER
- **DD FORM 214** - All soldiers must carefully review their DD Form 214 before signing it.
- **MEDICAL HOLD and CONTINUED CARE** - Your release could be delayed because of medical hold.
- **UNIT MORAL AND WELFARE ACTIVITY**

REEMPLOYMENT

You are protected from discharge of employment because of military obligations under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) (39 US Code Sections 20221-20226). The position you held prior to mobilization must be an "other than temporary" position to obtain protection under the law. You must apply for reinstatement of employment as soon as possible after release from active duty.

SUMMARY

This letter has been presented to provide you and your family with basic information on what will happen during a call to active duty. As more detailed information is available, it will be provided to you and your family. Information will be provided by command briefings, pamphlets and the mailing of reserve publications, benefits packages and information letters to your family.



**American
Red Cross**

Emergency Contacts

Once the unit is deployed, proper procedures have to be followed during a family emergency to ensure that the soldier is promptly notified and if necessary, shipped home. The first point of contact is the American Red Cross. The American Red Cross functions as the mediating agent between families and the military. Soldiers cannot be released from duty during emergencies unless the Red Cross contacts the unit. The American Red



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Emergency Contact Information Continued

Cross can be contacted in Rockford at 815-963-8471 and in Chicago at 312-729-6100. The mailing address and email address can be found on the internet at <http://www.redcross.org/>. The second step is to contact the unit. This gives the unit advanced notice that the Red Cross should be calling. It also allows both organizations assist the family in determining if there is a real emergency or if other assistance may be given. The point of contact at the units will be the recruiters.

WOODSTOCK -(815)337-9728

MACHESNEY -(815)633-4914

If both unit recruiters are unavailable, contact the battalion headquarters at (708)824-5218.

Ensure that you have the soldiers name, rank, unit and the nature of the emergency. All efforts will be made to assist you.

Important Items for Drill

If you wear glasses or contacts, WEAR YOUR GLASSES to drill. Do not wear your contacts. Bring the most updated prescription for your glasses. If possible, see and optometrist to have the prescription updated. This will ensure that you are properly outfitted with inserts for your M-40 protective mask.

If you need ID tags, let your chain of command know IMMEDIATELY. Making the tags is a time consuming process. Letting the unit know early ensures that you will get them done in a timely fashion.

If you have family members that will be attending drill for either the family support meetings or the Finance Briefings and ID Cards on 25/26 MAR and 29/30 APR let the chain of command know. The unit needs to know how many additional personnel will need to be fed.

Unit Web Site Updates

<http://www.il-arng.ngb.army.mil/a-1-178/>

The unit web site has added a few sections. The Family Support Group section contains information on support resources. It also includes links to a portion of the web site that contains past newsletters and information on

the deployment. This section requires a username and password for access. Contact the Executive Officer by e-mail at jbutte@mc.net to get your username and password. This section will be updated weekly and possibly daily once the deployment begins. You will be able to get up to date information on soldier activities, contact information and family support information.

**FILL OUT THE
PACKET GIVEN TO
YOU AT DURING
LAST DRILL
THIS IS AN ORDER!**

Other deploying units have been delayed because soldiers have failed to bring documents, obtain records or fill out paperwork. Failure to do this will cost time, headaches and may cost you and your family money and hardship. The unit is making every effort to prepare you and your family. Assist your chain of command by doing the same.

**Bring all of the items listed in the previous
newsletter to drill.**



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